

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00

NIC-01 A-01 OPR-01 SY-04 SIL-01 LAB-04 /074 W

----- 073811

O R 072125Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3832

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

JCS WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 1070

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PE

SUBJECT: COVERAGE OF FEBRUARY 5-6 RIOTS IN PRESS:

COMMUNIQUE AND EDITORIALS

1. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW FROM FEBRUARY 7 LIMA PRESS
REPORTING ON FEBRUARY 5-6 RIOTS.

2. MASS CIRCULATION EL COMERCIO (MANAGED BY CHRISTIAN
DEMOCRATS) CARRIES LEAST SENSATIONLIST COVERAGE OF
DISORDERS. IT PUBLISHED COMMUNIQUE BY GOVERNMENT-CON-
TROLLED NATIONAL AGRARIAN CONFEDERATION CALLING UPON
CAMPESIONOS TO BE ALERT TO ENEMIES OF PERU WHO ARE
ALLEGEDLY COMMANDED BY CIA. IN LONG EDITORIAL,
EL COMERCIO BLAMES DISTURBANCES ON ECONOMIC AND
POLITICAL GROUPS DISPLACED BY REVOLUTION. IT CALLS
EVENTS "ANOTHER LINK IN THE DESTABILIZATION CHAIN" PLANNED,
RUN AND FINANCED FROM ABROAD. HOWEVER, EDITORIAL DOES
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NOT DWELL ON THIS THEME NOR CHARGE CIA WITH ANY INVOLVE-

MENT WITH CIVIL STRIFE.

3. LA PRESNSA, WHICH ACCUSED CIA EDITORIALY YESTERDAY OF FOMENTING DISORDERS (LIMA 1010), REFRAINS FROM REPEATING EDITORIAL CHARGES, THEREBY SUGGESTING THAT AMBASSADOR'S DEMARCHE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS HAD A CHASTERING EFFECT ON PRENSA DIRECTOR PENALOZA (LIMA 1014).

4. GOVERNMENT-OWNED LA CRONICA BANNER HEADLINES: CALM RETURNS. ON PAGE 2, IT CARRIES PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY ZIMMERMANN'S DECLARATION BLAMING APRA AND MAOIST STUDENT GROUPS FOR DISORDERS. LONG EDITORIAL TRIES TO JUSTIFY MILGOV ACTION AGAINST POLICE, WHOSE SIT-DOWN STRIKE LEFT CITY WITHOUT PROTECTION. OUTSIDE (NOT NECESSARILY FOREIGN) INTERESTS ARE ACCUSED OF INCITING GUARDIA CIVIL STRIKE. "APPARATUS AIMED AT DESTABILIZING NATIONAL REVOLUTION COALESCED AROUND A MANIPULATED STRIKE OF THE GUARDIANS OF ORDER". CRONICA SAYS THE OBJECTIVE OF PERUVIAN ENEMIES WAS TO CREATE POOR IMAGE OF PERU ABROAD, AND APPARATUS WHICH SENT MATERIALS (PRESUMABLY NEWS AGENCIES) PROVES THIS. CRONICA CONCLUDES THAT PLANNERS OF SUBVERSIVE CONSPIRACY DID NOT COUNT ON ARMED FORCES UNITY. SIGNIFICANTLY, EDITORIAL DOES NOT RPT NOT MENTION CIA OR EVEN "IMPERIALISM". HOWEVER, CRONICA'S WORKERS, TRUE TO THEIR LEFTIST STRIPES, DO ACCUSE CIA OF "DESTABILIZING MACHINATIONS" IN THEIR COMMUNIQUE IN SUPPORT OF GOP STANCE. COMMUNIQUE OF COMMUNIST-RUN NEWSMEN'S FEDERATION ALSO POINTS FINGER AT CIA AND APRA, WHO ARE ACCUSED OF BEING IN LEAGUE IN FOMENTING CIVIL DISTURBANCES.

5. FAR-LEFT COMMUNIST-SYMPATHIZING EXPRESO HEADLINES THAT APRA AND CIA ARE TO BLAME FOR DISORDERS. FRANCISCO MONCLOA COLUMN AND LONG EDITORIAL BLAME APRA AND CIA. MONCLOA CLAIMS THAT CIVILIANS INFILTRATED POLICE RANKS, INCITING THEM TO MAKE ECONOMIC (PAY RAISE) DEMANDS AND PLAYING THEM WITH FREE LIQUOR. MONCLOA NOTES THAT ALLEGED APRA-CIA ACTION TOOK PLACE ONLY TWO DAYS AFTER NEW PRIME MINISTER MORALES-BERMUDEZ WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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SWORN IN. (THIS RATHER MURKY REFERENCE BY MONCLOA POSSIBLY SUGGESTS THAT ANTI-REGIME ELEMENTS WANTED MORALES TO ACT AGAINST VELASCO.) MONCLOA CONCLUDES THAT REVOLUTION HAS ENTERED LIFE AND DEATH STRUGGLE WITH COUNTERREVOLUTION. EDITORIAL REPEATS ACCUSATIONS AGAINST CIA. EXPRESO CARTOON DEPICTS UNCLE SAM TELLING CIA TO HIT PERU WITH ALL IT HAS.

6. SINAMOS NEWSPAPER CORREO (AND OJO) DO NOT APPEAR
DUE TO FIRE WHICH DESTROYED THEIR BUILDING.
DEAN

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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